

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05299 100804Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 STR-07 /028 W
-----023858 102258Z /13
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8546
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UNCLAS TAIPEI 05299

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, TW
SUBJECT: LIBERALIZATION OF IMPORTS OF HEAVY DUTY TRUCKS

REF: TAIPEI 5128 AND PREVIOUS

1. BOARD OF FOREIGN TRADE (BOFT) ANNOUNCED ON AUGUST 9
REMOVAL OF GEOGRAPHICAL RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTATION OF
HEAVY DUTY TRUCKS AND CHASSIS OF OVER 3.5 METRIC TONS.
PREVIOUSLY THESE IMPORTS WERE LIMITED TO SUPPLIERS IN
WESTERN EUROPE AND AMERICA. BOFT IS ALSO WITHDRAWING
LICENSING AUTHORIZATION FROM ALL DOMESTIC BANKS FOR
IMPORTS OF THESE TRUCKS. FOLLOWING IS A LISTING OF
SUBJECT COMMODITIES AFFECTED WHICH SHOULD BE ANNOTATED
IN COPIES "CLASSIFICATION OF IMPORT AND EXPORT COMMODITIES
OF ROC" SUBMITTED WITH A-19 OF FEB 28, 1978:

CCC CODE	ARTICLE
7417-10	TRUCKS WITH GASOLINE
7417-20	TRUCKS WITH DIESEL ENGINE
7417-60	TRUCKS WITH AUTOMATIC LOADING OR
-	UNLOADING APPARATUS
7417-83	DUMPER TRUCKS, ROAD MOTOR
7417-90	LORRIES AND TRUCKS, N.E.S.
7421-41	TRUCK CHASSIS WITH GASOLINE ENGINE MOUNTED

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7421-42	TRUCK CHASSIS WITH DIESEL ENGINE MOUNTED
7421-44	CHASSIS FOR TRUCKS WITHOUT CAB OVER
-	1,000 KG CAPACITY
7421-49	CHASSIS OF LORRIES AND TRUCKS WITH ENGINE
-	MOUNTED, N.E.S.
7421-92	CHASSIS OF LORRIES AND TRUCKS, WITH
-	ENGINE MOUNTED, N.E.S.

7423-83 CHASSIS FOR LORRIES AND TRUCKS, WITHOUT
- ENGINES

2. ANNOTATIONS FOR ABOVE 11 ITEMS SHOULD, HOWEVER, INDICATE THAT TRUCKS AND CHASSIS UNDER 3.5 METRIC TONS ARE STILL GEOGRAPHICALLY RESTRICTED IN FAVOR OF WESTERN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

3. SHORT-RUN EFFECT TO LIBERALIZATION WILL BE TO OPEN UP MARKET TO JAPANESE-MADE TRUCKS. THIS MAY BE TRANSITORY, AS ROC IS EXPECTED TO SOON ESTABLISH HEAVY TRUCK PLANT AS JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN TAIWAN MACHINERY MANUFACTURING CORPORATION AND EITHER GM, FORD OR CHRYSLER. REPORTEDLY, TRUCKS TO BE PRODUCED WOULD BE GUARANTEED A LION'S SHARE OF THE DOMESTIC MARKET. UNGER

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